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Appendix.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 162 asked by Sri V. K. Ramaswamy Mudaliar at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on 14th November 1957, page 239 supra.]

Work done by the Department of Statistics and the reports published by it, during the year 1956–57.

Clause (*a*).—The work of the Department of Statistics, Madras, relates to the collection, tabulation and interpretation of statistics on various sectors. It can be classified broadly under the following headings :—

(i) Season and agricultural statistics.
(ii) Prices and index numbers.
(iii) Trade statistics.
(iv) Statistics of wages.
(v) Industrial statistics.
(vi) Statistical surveys.
(vii) Community Development statistics.
(viii) Livestock census.
(ix) District statistical work.

The work under the above headings is briefly described below :—

(i) *Season and agricultural statistics*—(*a*) *Season and rainfall.*—The progress of the season was watched and reviewed from time to time. A brief review on the progress of South-West and North-East Monsoons was published in the local dailies. Statistics of sowings and harvests of important food and non-food crops were compiled every month for watching the progress of cultivation and condition of the crops.

Rainfall statistics were compiled based on data recorded daily at 333 rainguage stations in the State.

(*b*) *Agricultural statistics.*—Crop forecasts were issued in respect of 26 crops. The number of forecasts issued varied from one to five according to the nature and importance of crops. Five reports were issued on a crop like cotton, and one on crops like castor, greengram, horsegram, blackgram and chillies. In addition to these, reports giving condition, progress, etc., of the crops were issued as intermediate reports called the Intermediate condition reports.

(*c*) *Index numbers of agricultural production in Madras State.*—Index numbers of agricultural production were compiled covering 31 principal agricultural commodities for which estimates of production were available with a view to review trends in agricultural production.

(*d*) *Acreage and production of principal crops.*—Statistics of acreage and production of principal crops like, paddy, cholam, cumbu, ragi, cotton, sugarcane, groundnut, gingelly etc., were compiled for the Madras State. These statistics were compared with the acreage and production of crops over a series of years in order to study the trend. Statistics of area and production of

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principal crops in other States of the Indian Union were also gathered for assessing the relative position of Madras among other States. In respect of rice and other crops of international importance, statistics of production in the various countries, were gathered for assessing the world prospects during the year.

(e) *Ad hoc estimates of area and production of certain crops not covered by crop forecast reports.*—Regular crop forecast reports were not issued in respect of certain crops. But estimates of area and production of crops like sweet potatoes, tapioca, mangoes, citrus fruits, garlic, turmeric, coconut, bananas, etc., were required by the State and Central Governments. Hence Ad hoc estimates of area and production were framed for these crops.

(f) *Special reports required by the various departments of the State and Central Government.*—Special reports on agricultural and other statistics were prepared and furnished to certain Departments of the State and also Central Government. For example, a report on the average height and weight of students in the age group 17–20 years attending colleges in Madras State was furnished to the Central Statistical Organisation, Government of India, New Delhi.

(ii) *Prices and index numbers*—(a) *Prices statistics.*—Price trends in Madras State were reviewed against the background of the world economic situation and the Indian Economic Situation, as price levels in Madras, as anywhere else, were governed by internal factors as well as external factors such as general price levels in India as a whole and more remotely the general economic situation in the world.

To meet the demand for information regarding prices of commodities which enter into the internal and external trade of the State, wholesale and retail prices of commodities commonly traded in at important centres in Madras State were collected, compiled and published.

(b) *Index numbers—Cost of living index numbers and rural price index numbers*—(1) *Cost of living index numbers.*—Weekly and monthly cost of living index numbers were compiled for five centres.

(2) *Rural price index numbers.*—Weekly and monthly index numbers of rural prices were compiled for 8 centres.

(3) *Index number of wholesale prices.*—Weekly index numbers of wholesale prices of foodgrains and commercial products for Madras State and monthly index numbers of wholesale prices of food and non-food articles in Madras City were compiled.

(4) *Index numbers of retail prices.*—Monthly index numbers of retail prices ni Madras State were compiled.

(5) *Review of the price of certain important commodities during the year.*—Movements of prices and the factors governing them were closely watched in respect of important commodities, particularly paddy and rice, cotton, groundnut, cane jaggery, chillies, hides and skins, pepper.

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(6) *Agricultural Prices Review Committee.*—Notes for the Agricultural Prices Review Committee were prepared every week for reviewing the prices of agricultural commodities with a view to take steps if the prices fall below the critical levels or rise abnormally.

(iii) *Trade statistics.*—Statistics of movements of principal commodities by rail and sea were collected. Separate details were compiled in respect of foreign imports, foreign exports, coast-wise imports and coast-wise exports. Data regarding the value of the commodities imported or exported as the case may be were also collected.

Index numbers for import and export prices for Madras State.—Monthly index numbers of import and export prices were compiled with a view to measure changes in prices at the import and export levels.

(iv) *Statistics of wages—(a) Agricultural wages.*—Statistics of wages paid to agricultural and skilled labour in Madras State were collected and compiled at fortnightly intervals.

(b) *Industrial wages.*—Statistics of earnings of workers in factories, employing ten or more workers and using power as well as in factories employing twenty or more workers and not using power, were obtained for the last month of each quarter. They comprised basic wages, dearness allowance, overtime payments, other cash payments and the estimated money value of the concessions granted to workers in kind. The total number of workers employed in factories and their earnings were tabulated under major groups separately for men, women and children. The average per capita daily earnings of men, women and children were worked out and reviewed.

(v) *Industrial statistics.*—Industrial Statistics were collected under two sets of rules, namely, the Census of Manufacturing Industries Rules, 1945, and the Industrial Statistics (Labour) Rules, 1952, issued under the Industrial Statistics Act, 1942. Details are given below :—

(1) *Census of Manufacturing Industries Rules*, 1945.—Twenty-nine classified industries were covered at present by the Census. Statistics relating to capital structure, labour employed and wages paid, fuel, electricity, etc., consumed, materials consumed, products and by-products manufactured were collected from the Industries. The returns received from the occupiers of the factories were scrutinized and defects rectified. Returns found satisfactory were communicated to the Director of Industrial Statistics, Calcutta. The data given in the returns were tabulated in this Department for reviewing the progress of industries. Installed capacity of factories engaged in certain important industries like sugar, cement, chemicals, vanaspathi, etc., were also collected on a voluntary basis.

(2) *Industrial Statistics (Labour) Rules.*—Statistics in respect of attendance, wages and other earnings, hours of work and employment and unemployment were obtained in prescribed

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statistical returns from certain categories of industrial establishments. The returns were obtained for each of the four quarters ending 31st March, 30th June, 30th September and 31st December. The returns were scrutinized and defects rectified. The returns found to be satisfactory were sent to the Director, Labour Bureau, Simla. The data furnished in the returns were compiled in this Department and a brief account was prepared in respect of (*a*) the number of workers employed and the wages paid to them, (*b*) the number of factories working one or more shifts and (*c*) the number of factories working whose normal hours of work per day were less than 8 hours and more than 8 hours.

(vi) *Statistical surveys—(a) Surveys conducted on a regular basis.*—For estimating the production of crops, accurate statistics of yield per acre are required. The following crop sampling surveys were therefore conducted for estimating the average yield per acre. The data collected were tabulated and analysed. The results were furnished to the Directorate of National Sample Survey, Government of India.

(1) Crop sampling surveys on paddy and millets—cholam, cumbu and ragi.

(2) Survey for the statistical assessment of additional production of rice due to the application of Grow More Food Aids.

(*b*) *Ad hoc surveys conducted.*—The following *ad hoc* surveys were also conducted by the Department of Statistics :—

(1) Crop cutting experiments for assessing the effect of soil conservation measures on the yield of crops.

(2) Survey to estimate the village or extra-factory consumption of cotton in Madras State.

(3) Economic survey in Neyveli Lignite Project area.

(4) Economic survey of Lower Bhavani Project area.

(5) Scheme for evolving correction factors for application to statistics of crop acreage in Madras State.

(6) Crop sampling survey on sugarcane.

(7) Survey for the estimation of number of sets of weights and measures of length and capacity in use in Madras State.

(8) Economic survey on coconut growers affected by November-December 1955 cyclone in Tanjore district.

(vii) *Community Development statistics.*—The Administrative Intelligence Unit of the Department of Statistics, attended to the compilation of statistics relating to Community Projects administration. Some of the important items of work attended to by this Unit were assessment of the achievements in the Community Development areas of the State, preparation of narrative reports giving the principal accomplishments under major heads of development like Agriculture, Irrigation, Education, etc., extent

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of increased production and employment generated in the Project areas, etc. The progress of Community Development Programme in the Madras State was compared with that of other States of the Indian Union. The Administrative Intelligence Unit finalized the Administration Report of the Rural Development Projects Department for the year 1955–56 and also the narrative account on the progress of Community Development Programme during the calendar year 1956. Charts on the progress of the Community Development Programmes in this State were drawn for display at the exhibition organized in connection with the Centenary Celebrations of the Madras University and for the perusal of the Chinese Prime Minister when he visited Madras. In connection with a scheme for the selection of the best block in the State for the award of prizes, Index numbers of achievements for certain representative items on the programme, together with an Index of Merit for 1955–56, were worked out.

(viii) *Livestock census.*—A livestock census was conducted by the Department of Statistics. The mass of statistical data collected was tabluated and a memorandum on livestock census, 1956, was prepared.

(ix) *District statistical work.*—The District Statistical Unit set up in South Arcot district as a first step towards the establishment of District Statistical staff in each district, for general improvement of statistics and for obtaining statistics not collected through existing channels, attended to the task of ensuring the accuracy and timeliness of statistics relating to agriculture, prices and wages. The recommendations of the District Statistical Officer regarding the improvement of statistics were communicated to the Collector for further action. Another Unit was set up in Tiruchirappalli district late in the financial year.

Statistics in various sectors will be required for planning and for assessing the programme in the Second Five-Year Plan. An Integrated Scheme for Development of Statistics was formulated for the collection of statistics on various items and was implemented late in the financial year 1956–57 in the districts of South Arcot and Tiruchirappalli. The preliminary data relating to planning were collected.

Clause (*b*).—The following reports were published by the Department of Statistics during 1956–57 :—

(*a*) *Periodical reports.*—(1) Crop forecast reports on 26 crops were published in the *Fort St. George Gazette.*

(2) Wholesale and retail prices of commodities commonly traded in at important centres in Madras State were published periodically. The wholesale prices were published in the *Fort St. George Gazette* every week, while retail prices were published once in a fortnight. The wholesale price data were also broadcast through All-India Radio, Madras and Tiruchirappalli, for the information of the public.

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(3) The following price indices and wages statistics were published in the *Fort St. George Gazette* :—

(i) The cost of living index numbers.

(ii) The monthly rural price index numbers.

(iii) The weekly index numbers of wholesale prices of foodgrains and commercial products in Madras State.

(iv) The monthly index numbers of wholesale prices of food and non-food articles in Madras City.

(v) The fortnightly statistics of agricultural wages and index numbers of agricultural wages.

Other reports.—(4) Season and Crop Report giving agricultural facts and figures.

(5) Quarterly Abstract of Statistics.

(6) Annual Statistical Abstract.

[The reports under items (5) and (6) were available for sale to the public at the Government Press.]

(*b*) *Special reports.*—(1) Report on the Cottage Industries in select firkas in Madras State.

(2) Report on the Survey of the Handloom Industries **in** the Madras State was finalized and is under publication.

TRUTH ALONE TRIUMPHS